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## 25X1A

REPORT NO.

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### SOURCE

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1. In the village of Knyazhevo near Sofia, in Botevgrad, and in Plovdiv, three-month courses have been given to fanatic Communist youth, members of DOSO, who at the beginning of April were sent as antipartisan bands to the Greek, Turkish, and Yugoslav borders. Their duty was to stay in one place and from time to time to go out in directions in which underground elements were reportedly hiding or where people from the internal resistance were reportedly planning to cross the border. The members of these antipartisan bands could fight with the underground groups and members of the opposition and pursue them with weapons. They had the right to shoot them on sight without questioning.
2. Other antipartisan units have the right to join people of the internal resistance and learn the details of organization, supply, weapons, and plans of action, later using this information to catch and annihilate these groups. Some antipartisan groups have the right to join the internal anti-Communist resistance, to take part in action against the regime and later to find a way to emigrate, completing their destructive work among the emigres. The antipartisan group in the village of Knyazhevo numbers 120 men. Among them are persons who have taken part in the "partisan struggle before September 1953" [9 Sep 44 ?]. The leader of the group is Lt Col. Slavcho Venev from the Ministry of Defense and a former partisan in the Kyustendil area. Terenadzhi (scouts), people who know the areas where units will be delayed for action, are attached to the group. In the [anti-partisan] course there were young men from Vidin, Belogradchik, Kula, Trun, Kyustendil, Mikhaylovgrad, and Breznik Koliyas. They are accepted after discharge from military service. They have the best recommendation from local Party organizations as to their reliability. They are later examined by the Partisan Section of DOSO.

SEE LAST PAGE FOR SUBJECT &amp; AREA CODES

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25X1A

2

3. Units from the Plovdiv antipartisan group have been sent to Mezek, Svilengrad Okoliya, in the uniform of customs militamen. They have also been sent to Svilengrad, Ardino, Ivaylovgrad, Pazardzhik, and Peshtera. In some places they wear clothes like those of foresters, but have reserve clothing, ragged civilian and others, to be able to disguise themselves and join the resistance to achieve their aim.
4. In addition to these antipartisan groups, special "diversionary groups" which are trained by officer specialists from the Ministry of Defense and by Soviet officers to do reconnaissance, sabotage, to set fires, and carry on propaganda, have been established. These groups are separate from the antipartisan groups. Such a group was instructed throughout the winter until March 1953 in the village of Boyana near Sofia.
5. The locality where the courses have been given for training cadres of diversionaries was very strongly defended and is quite inaccessible, except to persons who have special documents from the Ministry of Defense, and who know the password. Cadres are trained in this unit as diversionary radio and telegraph operators (receiving and sending). These courses are given in two villas which can be seen from Pavlovo and which are next to one another. One was formerly the property of two Jewish merchants and the other was the property of a former Bulgarian industrialist.
6. The above information is confirmed by the action taken recently by Stoyko Ivanov, the Counsellor to the Bulgarian Communist Legation, and by Major Takan-yatsov, the assistant military attache, both of whom would pay very dearly for personal identification cards, certificates of personal identity, open papers, passports, and other documents of this type from Yugoslavia, Greece, or Turkey. After being falsified, these documents are given to Communist agents and provocateurs who pass as diversionaries, either in the clothes of emigrants or inhabitants of these countries with the aim of scouting or destroying the emigration of which they are very much afraid. They think that there will be an active struggle against the Communist regime in Bulgaria. The legation secretary in Rome, Khristov, who is from the Directorate of State Security in Sofia, is engaged in investigating emigrants who get in touch with the Bulgarian National Committee.
7. During the last of April 1953, throughout Bulgaria in rayoni and important villages, DOSO held okoliya and okrug conferences of officials. At this conference the technical preparation of the cadres which are supplements to local militia uchastuk and poduchastuk and to military units in the area of local DOSO organizations was considered. In all cities, three-month courses in chemical and antiair defense, firefighting, hygiene, alertness and defense (training for persecuting the resistance), and shooting will be given for leaders of DOSO throughout the okoliiyas. The number of semi-military cadres in DOSO include 27,000 persons, but the total membership of DOSO is much larger. The formal chairman of DOSO is a former criminal (before 1944) who was made a general, Dobri Terpeshev, and the actual organizer and director is the Soviet general, Ivan Kinov.
8. A special section (otdel) has been created in the Central Committee of the Party in which Dimo Dichev, General Dimov, Gen Ivan Mikhaylov, Radenko Vidinski, and Gen Georgi Demyanov take an active part. This section directs the secret Party militia and DOSO organizations. The information about the calling of the conferences reveals that the government and the Party are taking strong measures from now on because they are afraid of a mass partisan movement in the spring and of popular resistance from the villagers and workers. In addition, they are afraid of hatred from outside.

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